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10/027,257	12/20/2001	Tomofumi Watanabe	10449-041001	8985

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EXAMINER

HUBER, PAUL W

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2627

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 2627

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 6, 10, 12, 17 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shimoda et al. (USP-6,442,115).

Regarding claim 1, Shimoda et al. discloses a data recording device for recording data on an optical disc 1 by irradiating a laser pulse on the optical disc 1 while controlling rotation of the optical disc 1 at a constant angular velocity. See figure 1 and col. 5, line 65, through col. 6, line 9. An absolute time information is recorded on the optical disc by wobbling the groove track 2 at a constant pitch. See figure 2. "Since the rotation control for the DVD-R 1 is performed so as to keep the rotation angular velocity constant in the present embodiment, the extracted wobble signal becomes a signal which has a wobble frequency varying in correspondence with the linear velocity" (col. 6, lines 26-31). By measuring the wobble frequency of the wobbled groove track, the disc radial position or absolute time information of the disc can be determined. See col. 6, line 51, through col. 7, line 26. Shimoda et al. further discloses a clock generating circuit 25 for generating a clock using the wobble component of the optical disc at a position at which the laser pulse is irradiated. A detection circuit 23, 24 detects the frequency count value of the wobble signal or absolute time information recorded on the optical disc. A laser condition varying unit 15, 16 changes a peak value (power value) of the laser pulse in accordance with the absolute time information of the optical disc at a position at which the laser pulse is irradiated.

Art Unit: 2627

Regarding claims 6 & 10, Shimoda et al. further discloses a laser condition varying unit 15, 26 for altering at least one of a pulse timing and a pulse width of the laser pulse based on the absolute time information (channel bit rate) recorded in the wobble groove track 2. See col. 7, lines 3-9, and col. 6, lines 36-41.

Regarding claim 12, a strategy specifying circuit 11 connected to the detection circuit 23, 24 specifies a peak value of the laser pulse in accordance with absolute time information.

Regarding claim 17, a strategy specifying circuit 26 connected to the detection circuit 23 specifies at least one of a pulse width and a pulse timing of the laser pulse in accordance with the absolute time information (channel bit rate) recorded in the wobble groove track 2.


Regarding claim 21, a strategy specifying circuit 11, 26 connected to the detection circuit 23 specifies a peak value of the laser pulse and at least one of a pulse width and a pulse timing of the laser pulse in accordance with the absolute time information recorded in the wobble groove track 2.

Claim 11 is allowed.

Claims 2-5, 7-9, 13-16 and 18-20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Paul Huber at telephone number 571-272-7588.


Paul Huber
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2627

pwh
June 16, 2006